

# Connections

CHRIST CHURCH UNITED METHODIST

MAY 2018

What a joy-filled celebration we had on Easter! After the disaster we faced last fall, the story of Christ's resurrection is exceptionally good news. From death and despair new life can emerge. From crises and sorrow a new community can arise.

We have celebrated God's newness among us with new perspectives. In April, we heard from a number of lay speakers, who shared about how God is working in their lives. I have been moved by their stories, and grateful for their witness among us. We will continue to hear from lay speakers, hopefully once a month, as we move forward into the summer.

Before summer comes, though, it is essential that we hear from everyone. We will hold an all-church conversation/potluck on **Thursday, May 24th from 5:30-7pm** (finished in time for choir rehearsal). Our last all-church conversation focused on adopting our new mission statement. Building upon that mission statement, we will discuss the practical realities of how we foster the spiritual growth of our children, how we create a cultural of openness, and how we communicate our story to the wider community. We will break out into groups, and quickly move from the theoretical to the practical. I hope that by the end of our time together, we have action steps that we can implement in the seasons ahead.

I hope everyone will prioritize being present at this time together. If you can, please RSVP to Anne Colby ([apcolby@comcast.net](mailto:apcolby@comcast.net)), just so that we have a headcount. Childcare will be provided, and if you need a ride to the church, please let me know. I'm looking forward to our conversations.

In Christ,  
Lindsey

From the pastor...





## Music at Christ Church

Thanks to all who lent their musical gifts for a meaningful Lent and joyous Easter. Thank you for your time and effort in rehearsal and in our worship. Thank you also to those behind-the-scenes helpers who do light and sound and decoration, prepare communion, make and run PowerPoint, organize volunteers, create bulletins, prepare readings, etc.

It is a team effort to bring our best to worship God.

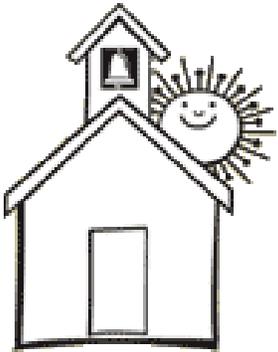
The children will join the choir on **Sunday, May 13**, Mother's Day, to sing *All Things Bright and Beautiful*.

**Sunday, May 20** is Pentecost. Please wear red as we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church.

**June 3** is Music Sunday. The choir has chosen their favorite anthems for worship. There will also be a sheet at the sign-up table for you to suggest your favorite hymns. Some can be used for Music Sunday, and the rest will become part of our summer worship services.

Carol-Jean Boevers

## **CHRIST METHODIST PRESCHOOL**



What an exciting month that has flown by! In April we made a few new friends who joined our CMP family. We also learned all about Spring in class while we experienced some of our very own Spring showers! We learned all about the rain forest as well as wild animals! Speaking of wild animals, we had our annual classroom safari! The kids enjoyed every moment of seeing wild animals come to our school. There



was a Sloth, a huge boa constrictor, a serval cat, a hedgehog, an alligator and more! Of course we are

now winding down for our last month of school and look forward to spending this next month all together.

Arlene





## What are you doing this summer?

First United Methodist Church's Vacation Bible School will be held at their Stony Point campus at 2150 Giffen Avenue on July 23rd to 26th mornings from 9:00 to 12:00.

For more information and registration is available at [www.fumcsantarosa.org](http://www.fumcsantarosa.org). Also, coming to Santa Rosa July 30th-August 3rd 9:30am - 3:00 pm is Camp Noah. This is a program hosted across the US in communities impacted by disaster and trauma. The camp will be held at the First United Methodist Church Stony Point Campus.

Camp Noah is limited to 50 children and those most impacted by the fire will be given priority. If you have or know a child who would be interested in attending, please contact: Elizabeth Walton at 707-545-3863 or [Elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org](mailto:Elizabeth.walton@fumcsantarosa.org). Camp Noah is made possible by a partnership among Lutheran Social Services, Rebuilding Our Community, Sonoma County, and the United Methodist Church.

**Christ Church Family Potluck BBQ and Campfire delight!**

Date: Saturday July 7th

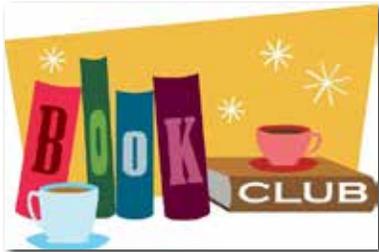
Times: 1:00 Swim, 3:00 BBQ and evening sing along campfire

Place: Linda and Dave Allen's home

Bring: Potluck items for BBQ and beverages, swimsuits and musical instruments

Who: The entire Christ Church family is invited.

## WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP

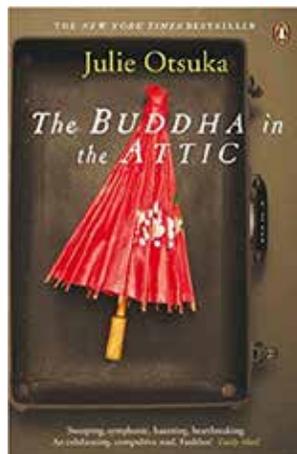


Monday, May 14

7:00 pm

Anita Pitzer's house

THE BUDDHA IN THE ATTIC, by Julie Otsuka. This novel tells the story of a group of young women brought from Japan to S.F. as "picture brides" nearly a century ago.



## May Birthdays

- 3 Chlele Gummer  
Simon Haupt
- 7 Isabelle Boone
- 20 Meg Scherfee
- 21 Barbara Magnuson
- 22 Mary Barton
- 24 Jill Brown  
Barbara Naslund
- 28 Lindsey Kerr  
Oliver Haupt





## VOLUNTEER IN MISSION (VIM) OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2018

Hope City is the rebuild organization we have been working with in Lake County for the past 2 years and also in Indiana several years ago. During the fires last October, Kevin Cox, their director and an expert in Disaster Response, was in Santa Rosa to help get emergency responses organized. He has continued working with churches and other non-profits getting things in place

for rebuilding in Santa Rosa. Estimates show that there will be many homeowners in Sonoma, Napa and Mendocino Counties that were under insured and will need help rebuilding. Many can pay for materials but need volunteer help for the labor to build. Hope City is looking for a space that can be rented and used as a dorm building to house volunteers that may come here to help us, much like we have found as our VIM Team has gone other places. The rebuild effort in Santa Rosa is still a while off but plans are underway. If you know of a building that might be used for a dorm, please let us know so we can investigate. UMCOR is providing some of the money for case management and construction management.

### SHED BUILD DAY

**Saturday, June 9, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM** at Piner High School, Santa Rosa

Hope City has received a grant to build 100 tool sheds to give to fire victims to use as they rebuild. Anyone who lost their home and doesn't have insurance for "appertunant structures" is eligible to receive one. Churches from around the area and homeowners will be working together on this project. Teams of 4-8 people will each build a shed. Families are welcome, children (10 and older) need to be with their parents. Materials will be provided in kit form. Everyone will get a free lunch and a T-Shirt. Teams must sign up in advance. Contact Diane Jackson 707-539-9311 or [DJack8895@prodigy.net](mailto:DJack8895@prodigy.net) for more information or to sign up for a team.

Sponsors are North Bay Relief Dund, Redwood Credit Union, The Press Democrat, Sonoma Churches, Charlss Schulz Museum.

For more Information see [www.hopecityinspiringhope.org](http://www.hopecityinspiringhope.org). If you are interested contact John Davenport.

### CONCERT BY SONOMA CHANSON & FOUR FOR THE GLORY

**May 20 at 4:00 PM, FUMC Montgomery Campus**

These concerts have been very popular and we thank the musical groups for supporting us year after year. A freewill offering will be taken to support our VIM activities.

## MIDDLETOWN REBUILDS

We have set aside two weeks, **SEPTEMBER 23-28 & SEPTEMBER 30- OCTOBER 5**. Watch for more information when we get our new brochure published. Getting away for a week or two week working vacation is very rewarding! Just ask any member of the VIM Team.

As opportunities develop in Santa Rosa area we will let you know what they are and how you can be a part of the recovery. It might be helping to host teams that come in from other areas, or building homes one day per week, etc., or supporting our fundraisers or praying for our efforts and for the families that are waiting to get back into a home of their own. Each of us can be a PLAYER, PAYER OR A PRAYER. What will you do?



## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

We will be breaking ground on three homes in Santa Rosa (on West Steele Lane) in May. We are now scheduling church groups for build days in June, July and August. If interested, please contact John Davenport, (707) 528-8545, or johndaven@sbcglobal.net.

## **TAIZE WORSHIP SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH**

*An Invitation to Nurture Your Spirit*

You are invited to join us at a beautiful Taize service here at Christ Church on **Friday May 25th**.

We meditate, pray and receive spiritual nourishment walking our labyrinth and then return to the sanctuary to sing Taize music accompanied by piano, flute and cello interspaced with thoughtful scripture, and other readings. One leaves feeling a sense of serenity and closer to God's love.

Labyrinth walk is 6:30PM Taize music and readings are 7:00 PM.

This will be the last monthly Taize service before summer. We thank the folks from First United Methodist Church who share this opportunity with us.



## **FUNDRAISERS**

There are no plans to continue the Rummage Sale or Silent Auction in the future. Both have been big fundraisers for Christ Church in recent years, but the people chairing these events do not want to continue and the church budget does not appear to require the income at this time. If other Christ Church people would like to initiate other fund raising activities for the church, please contact me about how to proceed.



## RECONCILING CORNER

*Our Strangely Warmed Hearts: Coming Out into God's Call*

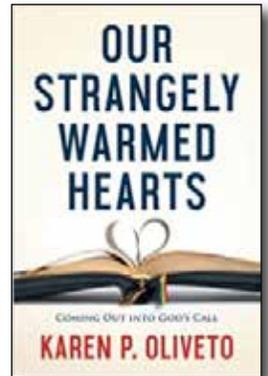
By Bishop Karen P. Oliveto (Author) April 17, 2018

As John Wesley discovered his true spiritual identity, he experienced a strangely warmed heart. Through poignant stories and well-reasoned principles, Karen Oliveto discloses why and how spiritual renewal and a personal call to ministry emerge in the strangely warmed hearts of

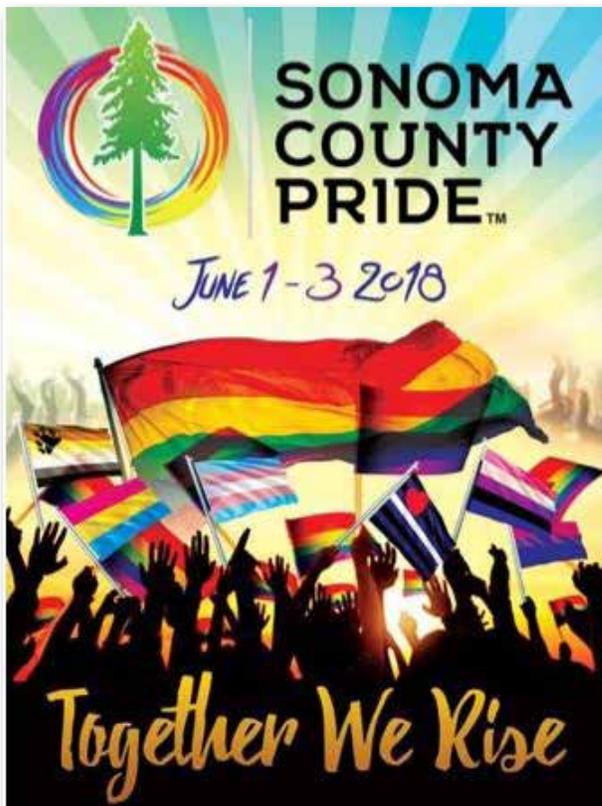
lesbian and gay Christians.

"I loved it! It drew me in immediately and kept me strapped in on what I knew would be a roller coaster of painful history, sprinkled triumphs, and then stories that broke my heart, gave me cheer, and brought tears to my eyes. Bishop Oliveto takes readers on a fascinating trip through LGBTQ history, and into the often contentious collision with mainstream religion... and then brings it all together through the personal stories that make our past and present come alive! I applaud Bishop Oliveto's book and will highly recommend it to the faithful and faith curious of all religions."

—The Reverend Marian Edmonds-Allen, Executive Director, Parity.



"[Bishop Karen Oliveto] is sharing the love of Jesus, and meeting people where they are, no matter who they are, and no matter what they think about her. She loves them." —Kent Ingram, senior pastor of First United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado.



## 31ST ANNUAL SONOMA COUNTY PRIDE PARADE

June 2, 2018, in downtown Santa Rosa on 4th Street. Parade starts at noon, followed by our Pride Festival from Noon to 8PM. This year's theme is *Together We Rise*. The idea behind the theme is to combat hateful rhetoric and policies of the current national political leadership and to stand behind the people of the community who feel threatened by the words and actions of others who have been emboldened by the last election. The event will also embrace people who have been traumatized and dislocated after the recent tragic fires that devastated the county and surrounding areas. The entire event will be about joining together to resist bigotry and discrimination and helping the community to heal and rebuild.



## WEDDING SHOWER FOR PASTOR LINDSEY AND DIANA

Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30 pm

Fields Fellowship Hall, FUMC, Montgomery

All are welcome!

*Note: Marriage ceremony will take place at the Church of One Tree later in the summer.*



There are so many of you who serve Christ Church... without mentioning a word about it.

- Thank you to Ted Wilmsen and Ron Simpson for removing the old wall heaters in the office.
- Thank you to Linda Carroll for getting the new opening in the office wall, repairing the walls where the old heaters were and for getting the office and conference rooms painted. It looks great!
- Deborah is a wonder! She put together the new furniture and the mailboxes in the office. It looks like a new office!
- Thank you to Gary Bunas for fixing the mailboxes to the wall.
- Thank you to John Davenport for fixing the file cabinet lock in the preschool.
- Thank you to Ray Magnusson for putting all the computers/printers/copiers back together so they talk to each other! We're back in business!
- We are thankful that we are Christ's Church!



One of the ways that we care for each other here at Christ Church is through prayer. We have a team of people who regularly pray for folks who are in need of spiritual and physical healing. Would you like to join those folks who pray daily for others in need? Would you like more prayers for yourself or people you are close to? Our prayer chain members feel honored to receive prayer requests from you. Contact Barbara Magnuson.



We also welcome written prayer requests you can put in the offering plate on Sundays. Prayer request cards are in the "Gray Pad" folder. We have listed names below so that we might all be in prayer for each other.



### IN OUR PRAYERS...

*"God does nothing except in response to believing prayer."*

*~John Wesley*

- Roger White
- Barbara Schmidt and family
- Meg Hurt & family
- Glo Wellman and family
- Jean Houser
- The Coolidge family
- Bob & Janet Smith's granddaughter, Annika, and family
- The Lawrence family
- All those who were affected by natural disaster
- Our church family & community
- Those who are experiencing violence throughout the world
- Our United Methodist Church as it continues to wrestle with issues of full inclusion in divided world



# May 2018

## Tuesday, May 01

	6:00 pm	Trustees mtg	Conf Rm
	7:30 pm	Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks, upstairs

## Thursday, May 03

	10:30 am	Worship Committee	Conf Rm
	4:00-5:30 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

## Friday, May 04

	1:00 pm	HandiCrafts	Conf Rm
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## Sunday, May 06

	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship, <i>Communion</i>	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Sanctuary

## Monday, May 07

	10:00 am	Elisha's Pantry Steering Committee	Conf Rm
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## Tuesday, May 08

	7:00 pm	Ad Council	Conf Rm
	7:30 pm	Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks, upstairs

## Wednesday, May 9

	11:00 am	HFTH workshop practice run	Sanctuary
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## Thursday, May 10

	4:00-5:30 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

## Friday, May 11

	1:00 pm	HandiCrafts	Conf Rm
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## Saturday, May 12

	10:30 am	Master Gardeners workshop – Spring Gardening	Sanctuary
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## Sunday, May 13

	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Sanctuary

<b>Monday, May 14</b>			
	6:30 pm	Social Concerns	Conf Rm
	7:00 pm	Women's Book Group	Anita Pitzer's house
<b>Tuesday, May 15</b>			
	6:30 pm	The Public Bank – meeting	Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks, upstairs
<b>Wednesday, May 16</b>			
	1:00 pm	Caring Committee	
<b>Thursday, May 17</b>			
	4:00-5:30 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>Friday, May 18</b>			
	1:00 pm	HandiCrafts	Conf Rm
<b>Sunday, May 20 – Pentecost Sunday – WEAR RED!</b>			
	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Sanctuary
<b>Tuesday, May 22</b>			
	7:30 pm	Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks, upstairs
<b>Thursday, May 24</b>			
	4:00-5:30 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>Friday, May 25</b>			
	1:00 pm	HandiCrafts	Conf Rm
	7:00 pm	Taizè Worship	Sanctuary
<b>Sunday, May 27</b>			
	8:50 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	9:30 am	Worship, <i>Amnesty Letters</i>	Sanctuary
	10:40 am	Time for Reflection	Sanctuary
<b>Tuesday, May 29</b>			
	6:00 pm	Preschool Moving On Ceremony	Sanctuary
	7:30 pm	Pub Theology	Third Street Aleworks, upstairs
<b>Thursday, May 31</b>			
	4:00-5:30 pm	Food Distribution	Elisha's Pantry
	6:50 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary